

THE HIGHEST MOUNTAINS

1857-1957

BY D. F. O. DANGAR

(A table of first ascents of mountains of 23,000 ft. and above that have been climbed since the foundation of the Alpine Club)

SOME well-known names are missing from the list that follows, notably Shilla and Aconcagua. It now seems certain that both these mountains are less than 23,000 ft. in height.¹

Wherever possible a reference for each ascent has been given in the ALPINE JOURNAL or the HIMALAYAN JOURNAL, but full accounts of some ascents, particularly of the most recent climbs, have not been published in English at the time of going to press.

I am much indebted to Colonel Kenneth Mason for supplying the Survey of India's triangulated heights for most of the mountains mentioned. Heights which have not been obtained by triangulation are printed in italics.

Names of members of the Alpine Club are also in italics.

As will be seen, only one 23,000 ft. summit was reached during the first fifty years of the period under review and it is appropriate that it should have been accomplished by one who is today the *doyen* of Himalayan travellers, Dr. T. G. Longstaff. During the following twenty-five years only eight more of these great mountains were climbed; it is a measure of the immense increase that has taken place in Himalayan climbing in recent times that more than half the total number of fifty-five summits listed during the century were attained within the last ten years.

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|---|------|---------|--|
| 1 | 1907 | June 12 | TRISUL, 23,360 ft. Garhwal.
<i>T. G. Longstaff, A. and H. Brocherel, Karbir.</i>
<i>A. J. 24. 118.</i> |
| 2 | 1911 | June 16 | PAUHUNRI, 23,180 ft. Sikkim.
<i>A. M. Kellas, Sonam, another porter.</i>
<i>A. J. 26. 129.</i> |
| 3 | 1913 | Aug. 3 | KUN, 23,250 ft. Kashmir.
<i>L. Borelli, M. Piacenza, J. Gaspard, Ali Rahin,</i>
<i>Porter 'Carrel'.</i>
<i>A. J. 27. 454.</i> |

¹ See *A. J.* 61. 309 and 549.



Photo, F. S. Smythe]

KAMET FROM THE SOUTH.

- 4 1928 Sept. 25 PIK LENIN, 23,383 ft. Trans-Alai Pamir.
E. Allwein, E. Schneider, *K. Wien*.
A. J. 40. 406 ; 41. 272.
- 5 1930 May 24 NEPAL PEAK (S.W. summit), 23,442 ft. Kang-
chenjunga group.
E. Schneider.
A. J. 42. 216 ; *H. J.* 3. 87.
- 6 June 3 JONGSONG PEAK, 24,344 ft. Junction of Nepal,
Sikkim, and Tibet.
H. Hoerlin, E. Schneider.
(*G. O. Dyhrenfurth, M. Kurz, F. S. Smythe, U. Wieland*, with Lewa and Tsering Norbu, made the ascent a few days later. Dyhrenfurth also ascended the lower peak.)
A. J. 42. 219.
- 7 1931 June 21 KAMET, 25,447 ft. Garhwal.
R. L. Holdsworth, E. E. Shipton, F. S. Smythe, Lewa.
(*E. St. J. Birnie and C. R. Greene*, with Kesar Singh, made the ascent two days later.)
A. J. 43. 289.
- 8 1932 July 16 RAKHIOT PEAK, 23,210 ft. Nanga Parbat group.
P. Aschenbrenner, H. Kunigk.
A. J. 44. 198.
- 9 Oct. 28 MINYA KONKA, 24,891 ft. (?). China (Sikang
Prov.).
R. L. Burdsall, T. Moore.
A. J. 45. 290.
- 10 1933 Sept. 3 PIK STALIN, 24,590 ft. Western Alai-Pamir.
E. M. Abalakov.
M. Romm : The Ascent of Mount Stalin.
- 11 1934 Aug. 3 BALTORO KANGRI (E. summit), 23,390 ft. (?).
Karakoram.
J. Belaieff, P. Ghiglione, A. Roch.
Die Alpen, 1935, 77.
- 12 Aug. 12 SIA KANGRI, 24,350 ft. Karakoram.
H. Ertl, A. Höcht.
(The three lower peaks were also climbed by members of the expedition between August 3 and August 12.)
Der Bergsteiger, 1934, 5. 202.
- 13 1935 July 18 KHARTAPHU, 23,640 ft. Everest group.
E. G. H. Kempson, E. E. Shipton, C. B. M. Warren.
A. J. 48. 7.

- 14 July 23 KELLAS' DARK ROCK PEAK, 23,180 ft. Everest group.
E. E. Shipton, H. W. Tilman, E. H. L. Wigram.
A. J. 48. 8.
- 15 Aug. 29 KHARTA CHANGRI, 23,070 ft. Everest group.
E. G. H. Kempson, C. B. M. Warren.
A. J. 48. 9.
- 16 Nov. 18 KABRU, 24,002 ft. Kangchenjunga group.
C. R. Cooke.
A. J. 48. 182.
(On October 20, 1907, Messrs *C. W. Rubenson* and *Monrad-Aas* reached a point less than 100 ft. below the summit. See *A. J.* 24. 63, 310.)
- 17 1936 Aug. 29 NANDA DEVI, 25,645 ft. Garhwal.
N. E. Odell, H. W. Tilman.
A. J. 49. 13.
- 18 Sept. 10 NEPAL PEAK (Central summit), 23,500 ft. Kangchenjunga group.
A. Göttner, K. Wien.
A. J. 49. 44.
- 19 1937 May 21 CHOMOLHARI, 23,997 ft. Bhutan-Tibet.
F. Spencer Chapman, Pasang Dawa.
A. J. 49. 203.
- 20 Aug. 12 MANA, 23,860 ft. Kamet group.
F. S. Smythe.
A. J. 50. 72.
- 21 1939 May 27 NEPAL PEAK (N.E. summit), 23,557 ft. Kangchenjunga group.
E. Grob, H. Paidar, L. Schmaderer.
H. J. 13. 46.
- 22 May 29 TENT PEAK, 24,089 ft. Kangchenjunga group.
E. Grob, H. Paidar, L. Schmaderer.
H. J. 13. 46.
- 23 July 2 NANDA DEVI EAST, 24,391 ft. Garhwal.
J. Bujak, M. J. Klarner.
A. J. 53. 31.
- 24 July 5 DUNAGIRI, 23,184 ft. Garhwal.
A. Roch, F. Steuri, D. Zogg.
A. J. 52. 38.
- 25 1947 Aug. 1 SATOPANTH, 23,213 ft. Garhwal.
R. Dittert, A. Graven, A. Roch, A. Sutter.
H. J. 15. 33.

- 26 1949 June 6 THE PYRAMID (N.E. summit), 23,294 ft. Kang-
chenjunga group.
R. Dittert, J. Pargätzi, A. Sutter.
H. J. 16. 26.
- 27 1950 June 3 ANNAPURNA, 26,492 ft. Nepal.
M. Herzog, L. Lachenal.
A. J. 58. 155.
- 28 July 21 TIRICH MIR, 25,263 ft. Hindu Kush.
P. Kvernberg.
(H. Berg, A. Naess, and *H. R. A. Streather* re-
peated the ascent on the following day.)
A. J. 58. 6.
- 29 Aug. 22 ABI GAMIN, 24,130 ft. Kamet group.
G. Chevalley, R. Dittert, *A. Tissières*.
H. J. 17. 80.
- 30 1951 July 11 MUKUT PARBAT, 23,760 ft. Kamet group.
E. McC. Cotter, H. E. Riddiford, Pasang Dawa.
N.Z.A. J. 14. 179.
- 31 1952 June 13 CHAUKAMBA, 23,420 ft. Garhwal.
L. George, V. Russenberger.
Alpinisme, 1952, 115.
- 32 1953 May 29 MOUNT EVEREST, 29,028 ft. Nepal-Tibet.
E. P. Hillary, Tenzing Norkay.
A. J. 59. 107
- 33 June 6 CHAMAR, 23,545 ft. Sringi Himal, Nepal.
M. Bishop, Namgyl.
(Three others reached the summit on June 7.)
N.Z.A. J. 15. 393
- 34 July 3 NANGA PARBAT, 26,660 ft. Kashmir.
H. Buhl.
A. J. 59. 371.
- 35 Aug. 28 NUN, 23,410 ft. Kashmir.
Mme C. Kogan, P. Vittoz.
A. J. 59. 341.
- 36 (?) PIK KORZHENEVSKAYA, *c.* 23,310 ft. Pamir.
Russian mountaineers.
A. J. 61. 328
- 37 1954 May 30 BARUNTSE, *c.* 23,560 ft. Nepal.
G. Harrow, C. Todd.
(The ascent was repeated on June 1 by *W. G.*
Lowe and *W. Beaven*.)
A. J. 60. 234.
- 38 July 31 K2, 28,250 ft. Karakoram.
A. Compagnoni, L. Lacedelli.
A. J. 60. 3.

- 39 Aug. 5 Unnamed, *c.* 23,945 ft. Above Batura glacier, Karakoram.
D. Meyer, M. Schliessler.
H. J. 19. 125.
- 40 Oct. 19 CHO OYU, 26,750 ft.² Nepal-Tibet.
S. Jöchler, H. Tichy, Pasang Dawa.
A. J. 60. 239.
- 41 Oct. 22 MAKALU II, 25,120 ft. Everest group.
J. Franco, L. Terray, Gyalzen, Pa Norbu.
La Montagne, 1955, 10.
- 42 Oct. 30 CHOMO LÖNZO, 25,640 ft. Everest group.
J. Couzy, L. Terray.
Mountain World, 1956/7, 130.
- 43 Nov. 11 PUTHA HIUNCHULI, 23,750 ft. Nepal.
J. O. M. Roberts, Ang Nyima.
A. J. 60. 255.
- 44 1955 May 15 MAKALU, 27,790 ft. Everest group.
J. Couzy, L. Terray.
(The other members of the expedition reached the summit on May 16-17.)
A. J. 61. 13.
- 45 May 25 KANGCHENJUNGA, 28,146 ft. Sikkim-Nepal.
G. C. Band, J. Brown.
(N. Hardie and *H. R. A. Streather* made the ascent on the following day.)
A. J. 60. 207.
- 46 May 30 ANNAPURNA IV, 24,688 ft. Nepal.
H. Biller, H. Steinmetz, J. Wellenkamp.
Die Alpen, 1956, 82.
- 47 June 8 ISTOR-O-NAL, 24,271 ft. Hindu Kush.
J. E. Murphy, T. E. Mutch.
H. J. 19. 156.
- 48 July 5 YENGUTZ HAR, 23,056 ft. Karakoram.
R. Diepen, E. Reinhardt, J. Tietze.
Mountain World, 1956/7, 173.
- 49 Oct. 24 GANESH HIMAL (highest peak of), 24,299 ft. Nepal.
E. Gauchat, Mme C. Kogan, R. Lambert.
Die Alpen, 1956, 104.
- 50 1956 May 9 MANASLU, 26,658 ft. Nepal.
T. Imanishi, Gyalzen.
(Messrs. K. Kato and M. Higeta reached the summit on May 11.)
T. Yoda: *Ascent of Manaslu in Photographs* (Japan, 1956).

² The figure 26,867 ft., given by some authorities, has not yet been confirmed.

- 51 May 18 LHOTSE, 27,890 ft. Everest group.
F. Luchsinger, E. Reiss.
A. J. 61. 239.
- 52 July 7 MUZTAGH TOWER, 23,860 ft. Karakoram.
J. M. Hartog, T. Patey.
(*I. McNaught-Davis* and J. Brown had reached the West summit, about 10 ft. lower, on the previous day.)
A. J. 61. 253.
- 53 July 7 GASHERBRUM II, 26,360 ft. Karakoram.
S. Larch, F. Moravec, H. Willenpart.
Die Alpen, 1957, 25.
- 54 July 31 MUZTAGH ATA, 24,388 ft. Pamir.
Members of a Russo-Chinese expedition.
(Messrs. *E. E. Shipton* and *H. W. Tilman* reached the summit plateau on August 13, 1947, but did not actually attain the highest point. See *A. J.* 56. 317.)
A. J. 61. 549.
- 55 Aug. 16 QUNGUR, c. 25,146 ft. Pamir.
Members of a Russo-Chinese expedition.
A. J. 61. 549.
- 56 1957 June 9 BROAD PEAK, 26,414 ft. Karakoram.
H. Buhl, K. Diemberger, M. Schmuck, F. Wintersteller.